



Atty. Dkt. No. 036910-0114

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hideyuki KOBAYASHI et al.
Title: CHARGING METHOD FOR USE
IN SERVICE PROVIDING
SYSTEM, PROGRAM, AND
STORAGE MEDIUM
Appl. No.: 10/534,760
Filing Date: 11/12/2003
Examiner: N. Mehrpour
Art Unit: 2617
Confirmation Number: 7036

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance to 37 C.F.R. § 1.133, submitted herewith is a record of the substance of the interview on December 13, 2007, between Examiner N. Mehrpour, regarding the above-captioned application. This statement is being submitted within one (1) month of the mailing date of December 17, 2007, of the Interview Summary and is therefore a timely response.

Applicants' representative, Thomas G. Bilodeau, and Examiner Mehrpour discussed the following features which are in various claims of the application:

1) "wherein the first terminal device is arranged such that the first terminal device cannot be directly operated by the user",

2) "a step of the first terminal device detecting a change in state of an object to be monitored, and operating according to a detected state of the object, wherein the modified

predetermined parameter determines an operation that is performed by the first terminal device according to the state detected by the first terminal device”,

3) “a step of the first terminal device performing an operation determined in accordance with the modified predetermined parameter, among a plurality of operations which are respectively associated with possible detected states of the object to be monitored and which are to be performed when the state of the object to be monitored has changed”, and

4) “a step of the second terminal device presenting plural operations to be performed by the first terminal device according to a detected state of an object to be monitored, so that the user can select an operation from among the presented operations, and the second terminal device accepting the operation selected by the user.”

Applicants noted that with respect to features 1) and 2), the sections of the Thornton and Marshall references cited to in the outstanding Office Action for disclosing these features did not disclose such features. Applicants also noted that with respect to features 3) and 4) that the outstanding Office Action did not refer to these features in the Office Action.

Examiner Mehrpour asked that applicants point out these deficiencies of the references applied in writing. Applicants noted that these deficiencies had specifically been pointed out in writing in the Amendment filed on August 6, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Date December 26, 2007

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